



The Clark Atlanta University PANTHER

"We'll Find A Way Or Make One."

CANDIDATES:
A LOOK AT
WHO'S RUNNING
FOR
SGA OFFICE
SEE INSIDE

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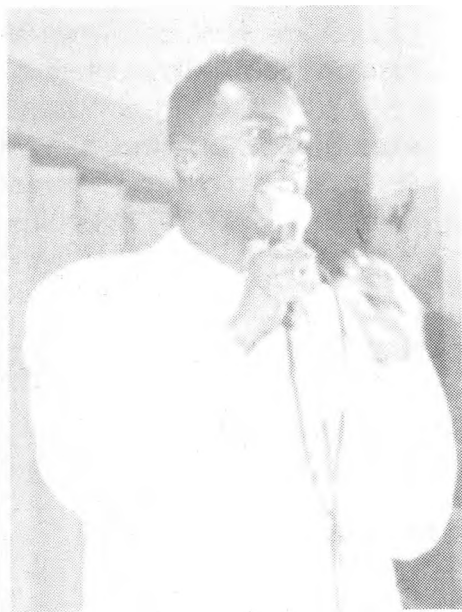
WHAT A DAY!

Photos By Christian Gooden / Staff



Pat Wilker and her daughter, Erica, a senior at Cedar Shoals High School in Athens, GA talk with a CAU instructor during Parent/Student Visitation Day.

Saturday, April 8, was a busy day at Clark Atlanta University. Candidates for SGA offices officially began campaigning, high-school seniors and their parents toured the campus for annual Student/Parent Visitation Day and comedian and "MTV Jams" host Bill Belamany held a concert at the Vivian W. Henderson Gymnasium later that day. All in all, it was a good day.



Bill Belamany performing his comedy routine at CAU.



Candidate Terrinee L. Gundy gets a jump start on campaign.

AUC Prepares For Freaknic '94

By Tara C. Gunter
Editor-In-Chief

During the weekend of April 22, an estimated 180,000 college students will converge on Atlanta University Center campuses and metro Atlanta for three days to enjoy the festivities of Freaknic '94.

According to comedian Redman, who performed last Saturday, April 9 at Clark Atlanta University's Vivian W. Henderson Gymnasium, last year's event raised nearly "31 million dollars," in revenue for vendors and local business merchants.

However, lack of an organizational body, huge traffic jams, large crowds milling in small areas, Piedmont Park residents' complaints about unruly students, and citizens concerned about this year's events caused several groups with vested interest to merge together to form what it

For complete
list of the
Atlanta Black
College Spring
Break '94
activities turn to
P11.

calls The Atlanta Black College Spring Break '94 (ABCSB).

According to ABCSB's Executive Director of General Planning, Virgil Rabun, the organization's "planning committee consists of students, two neighborhood representatives- Midtown neighbors association and Martin Luther King Dr.- three business representatives and the Atlanta Bureau of Visitors" and others.

The committee was formed ten
Continued P7

CAU's General Education Being Reviewed

By Lisa Flanagan
News Assistant

The General Education Curriculum at Clark Atlanta University may be getting a face lift.

The curriculum has not been revised since the consolidation of Clark College and Atlanta University in 1988.

"We want the students at Clark Atlanta University to have positive experiences and a wealth of knowledge when they enter the work force, said Dean Alexa Henderson, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies. "The curriculum needs to be reviewed in order to see if students have the ability to compete in society."

A committee was assembled last year to review the general education courses. After deliberating for several months, a list of 16 areas of suggested areas of learning were discussed. One of the main areas the faculty approved is more emphasis on communication. "Clark Atlanta has to stress communication skills,

students should be proficient writers and speakers after completing their required general education courses," said Henderson.

Dean Henderson has held forums with students and faculty to receive input about their experiences, positive or negative with the existing curriculum.

Other areas that will be stressed are researching skills, how to use the library effectively, computer literacy, natural sciences, and computation skills, international studies, African American studies.

General Education will also focus on the community service program. According to Henderson the revised program will put students in volunteer positions that will relate to their desired field of study.

The revised General Education Curriculum will not be implemented until the next two years, so the changes will not affect students already matriculating at Clark Atlanta University.

Dean Henderson stated the courses should not be a repetition of high school level courses. "We want to insure

CANDIDATES '94

MISS CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

Name: Carrie Beard

Experience: Public Relations Society of America; The Advertising Club; The Panther newspaper (staff writer); NAACP; Freshman Orientation Guide Corps; Queens' Coalition

Reason For Running: "I believe that a person in a leadership position should always be personable and approachable. A leader should be willing to give their time and dedication."

Name: Latonya E. Ephram

Experience: CAU Cheerleading Squad 91-94 (Co-Captain); NSBE; Miss Texas 1991-92; Asst. VP of Texas Club 1992-93

Reason For Running: "If elected, I could serve as a liaison between the student body and their ideas, along with faculty and staff and their manpower. Together, we can find a way or make one..."

Name: Tonja R. Edmond

Experience: Junior Class Officer; 1st Attendant Miss Junior; Queens Coalition; NAACP; GAE; Holmes Hall Dorm Council

Reason For Running: "My greatest contribution in the role as Miss CAU would be dedication and service to my community, fellow students and above all, my University."



Name: Tanishia M. Grimes

Experience: Honors Program; Big Brother/Big Sister Program; CAU-TV3; Panther Newspaper Staff (Features Assistant)

Reason For Running: "I want to offer students my ability to effectively communicate their needs. I would like to enforce the to unify. Being Miss CAU is not just about having a pretty face or holding a title, it is a service to my school, community and myself."



Name: Shuraka L. Ingram

Experience: Honors Program Student Chartered Organization; Sigma Tau Delta Int'l English Honor Society (chair of Activities Comm.) Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society (Co-Chair Comm. Service)

Reason for running: "Clark Atlanta University needs a representative that exemplifies the achievements as well as the progress that CAU has made since the consolidation."

MISS SENIOR

Name: Latanya S. Ferrell

Experience: CAU Cheerleading Squad (Co-Capt.); Inroads Atlanta (Summer Activities Dir.); Therrell High School Tutorial Program (Secretary)

Reason For Running: "If elected to office, I plan to contribute my time so that the requests of my classmates be fulfilled."

Name: Jennifer Miller
Miss Senior

Reason For Running: "I feel as though I would represent the Senior class well. I would like the opportunity to represent my school and my class."

Name: Helena Lafaye Webster

Reason For Running: "I am a firm believer that I can do anything that I set my mind and faith in God to do. I feel that I can represent the Class of 1994-1995 as Miss Senior because I am a positive individual with a need and desire to lead, follow, and learn more about the Student Government Association and my fellow Senior classmates."



Name: Tonya Dionne Wonnum

Reason For Running: "Holding the office of Miss Senior would allow me the opportunity to become more involved in my university. I would be proud to represent my class in this capacity."

MISS JUNIOR

Name: Kristie N. Jackson

Reason For Running: "In today's society one must be extremely well rounded in order to achieve ultimate success. I want to display that intelligence, poise and strength are all key ingredients to achieve that success."

Name: Michelle D. Roberson

Experience: Washington State Club; Student Locator; Resident Assistant; Seattle Times intern

Reason For Running: "I would like to act as a median between my Junior class and the SGA, therefore giving me and my class a solid voice."

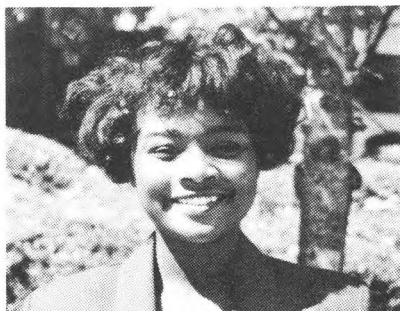
Name: Tra'Niece Ratchford

Experience: Secretary Sophomore Class; Marketing Club Member; Queens Coalition

Reason For Running: "My social consciousness as reflected by my community service and my performance as a student makes me eligible to represent what the class of '96 is all about."

MISS SOPHOMORE

Name: Demetria Alsobrooks



CANDIDATES '94

UNDERGRADUATE PRESIDENT



Name: Jamal I. Coleman
Student Government

Reason For Running: "I would like to hold the position of the Undergraduate President in order to continue the programs of student involvement, adequate student representation to administration faculty and staff."

Name: Carla Yllice' Lewis

Reason For Running: "The reason I am seeking to obtain the position as Student Government Association Undergraduate President is to implement new and creative ideas, and form a more perfect union at Clark Atlanta University."

UNDERGRADUATE VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Jerome Farquharson

Reason For Running: "The main reason for wanting to hold to office is there is a real need for male leaders dedicated to supporting his fellow students."

Name: Samuel Bell Jr. **Reason For Running:**

Reason For Running:

Name: Tanya Renee Mitchell

Reason For Running: "The office of SGA Vice President holds much prestige on campus. My goal is to use this clout to benefit the students. There are issues that need to be addressed. Even if I don't win this time around, hopefully through my campaign and platform these issues will be taken care of."

Name: Roderick J. Walker

Reason For Running: "I want to hold the office of SGA Vice President because I want to be directly involved in making CAU a better institution. I also want to Persuade the student body to get more involved in CAU's affairs."

GRADUATE PRESIDENT

NAME: Philip Dunston

Reason For Running: "I have the necessary experience. I have worked in student government for five years. I have excellent leadership qualities and I love serving students."

Campaigning began
April 9
and ends April 18.

Treasurer

Name: Terrinee L. Gundy

Reason For Running: "I would like to be CAUSGA Treasurer to aid in improving and uplifting the current conditions of CAU. My other reason is to help the students communicate with the Administration."

Name: Tanya Renee Mitchell

Name: Devin Williams

Reason For Running: "The office that I'm seeking is a trustworthy, dependable, responsible and dedicated position and I'm the one I know I possess these attributes."

Name: Michelle Jones

Reason For Running: "I want to hold the office of treasurer because after working on one of the treasure's committees, I know that this job requires hard work, determination, and management skills. Through education and experience I feel that I can do the job."



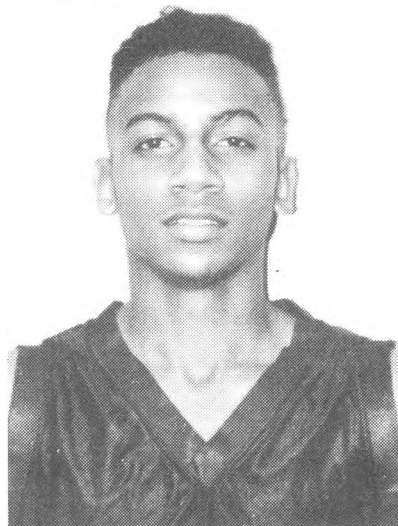
CANDIDATES '94

SECRETARY



Name: Angela D. Burns

Reason For Running: "It is my desire to be secretary because it will allow me to illustrate my outstanding clerical abilities. I am truly dependable and thrive on professionalism."

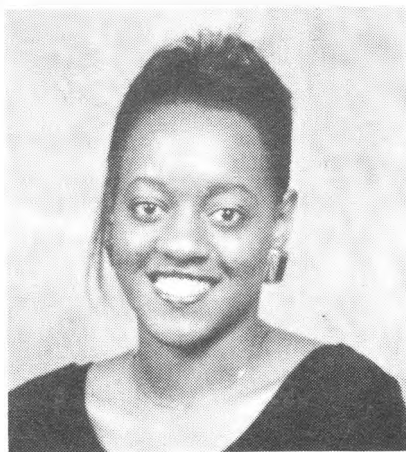


Name: Kenneth L. Harris

Experience: Varsity Basketball Team; NAACP Chapter; Allied Health Club

Reason For Running: My greatest contribution to the student body will be always being consistent in what I do as I try to employ new standards within my chosen office, with dedication, hard work and scholarships."

SENIOR CLASS VICE PRESIDENT



Name: De'neia Mabry

Campaign Slogan: Public Relations Student Society of America-VP; Advertising Club; TN Club; CAU Panther newspaper- Staff Writer; Atlanta Association of Black Journalist Scholarship Committee

Reason For Running: "I believe in involvement. By being Vice President, I would implement programs and activities that would get the class of 1995 more involved and active in campus activities."

JUNIOR CLASS PRESIDENT

Name: Paulette Mitchell

Campaign Slogan: Womes Basketball Team; Honors Program; Volunteer Team; Pre Alumni Council; We Deep Productions (Guest List Coordinator)

Reason For Running: "I believe that as a young adult at Clark Atlanta University, we have duties to fulfill in the community and on campus which are not being done as a whole class."

JUNIOR CLASS VICE PRESIDENT



Name: Cedria V. Davis

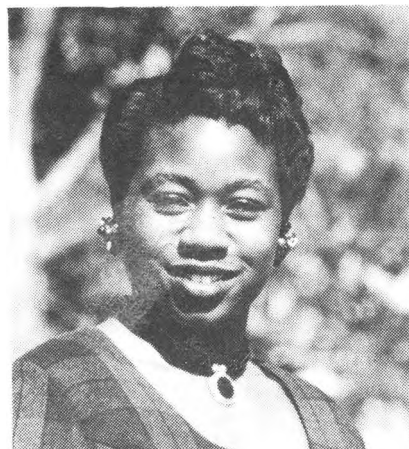
Experience: 1993-94 Orientation Guide Corp; Pre-Alumni Council-Chairperson of Saturday Science Acadsemy; NAACP

Reason For Running: "I want to hold the office of Junior Class VP because my ambition and determination will encourage others to become more involved in junior class activiities."

Name: Kelli Ingram

Experience: Atlanta University Mentor Program- Secretarr; Forensics Society- President; Honors Program- 2nd VP

Reason For Running: "Holding an office in the SGA gives me an opportunity to give back to the University. I want to help change Clark Atlanta University for the better."



Name: Makeeta Nash

Experience: Inspirational Voices of Faith Choir-Miss IVOF; Alpha Mu Sophomore Interest Group-Co-Chairperson; Track Team; Organization of Social Change; Gourmet Services Volunteer Services

Reason For Running: "I want to hold the office of Junior VP because I would like to bring the junior class together to support the SGA. I feel that by interacting with a lot of Juniors at CAU, then I could bring our ideas together to become more active at CAU."

Name: Elizabeth Pauley

Experience: SGA Vice President and Student Rep. (Bellevue Community College); Black Student Union; Eastside Moving Company; Volunteer Coach- Central Areas Youth Assoc. Little League Cheerlead Squad

Reason For Running: "I would like to be Junior Class President because I feel I am qualified to represent this class. Due to experience as well as a sincere desire to see that the needs of these students are accurately met."

CANDIDATES '94

JUNIOR CLASS SECRETARY



Name: Michelle Nicole Lewis

Experience: NAACP; Pre-Alumni Council; CAU Players- Public Relations Representative

Reason For Running: "I want to become the 1994-95 Junior Class President because I possess the leadership skills and qualities that are necessary to fulfill this position."

SOPHOMORE CLASS PRESIDENT

Name: Lez'Lee Ne'Kole Gerren

Experience: Key Club President; Varsity Cheerleading-Captain; Afrocentric Student Association-Senior Rep.; Mayors Youth Council- Rep.; National Council of Negro Women- Youth Coordinator; Big Brothers/ Big Sisters- Advisor

Name: Jamila R. Smith

Hear Candidates Debate

Check With Student Election Committee for a date and time.

Name: Algenard Herring II

Experience: SGA; Pre-Alumni Council; The Student Activities Volunteer Team

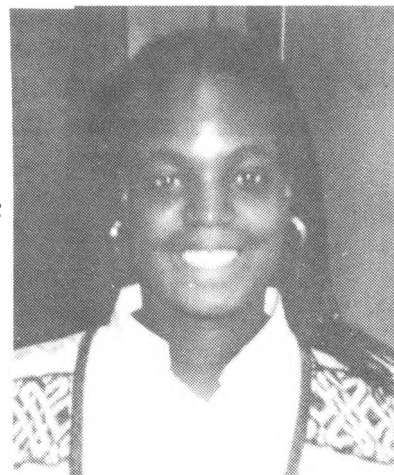
Reason For Running: "I feel I can give the Sophomore class a strong voice in SGA. I am an energetic and active person who will boldly represent the sophomore class and their ideas."



Name: Angela Yvonne Johnson

Experience: Freshman Class Secretary; Freshman Class Treasurer; Tri-State Club Treasurer; Spanish Club member; International Language Society Member; Pre-Alumni Council; Freshman Homecoming Committee Coordinator; SGA House of Delegates Member

Reason For Running: "I would like to hold the office of Sophomore Class President because I have a genuine interest in helping and guiding my class in becoming active on campus."



SOPHOMORE CLASS VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Albert Terence Brownlee

SOPHOMORE CLASS SECRETARY

Name: Elizabeth Pauley

SGA ELECTIONS

Will Be Held

April 26

In Thayer Hall

VOTE:

YOU

MAKE THE
DIFFERENCE.

Local Beauty Salon Linked To Tokars Case

By Warren Woodberry, Jr.
Staff Writer

On a nice warm and sunny semester day, Fair St. and James p. Brawley Dr., the two main strips in the Atlanta University Center (AUC) can be found lined with cars and crowded sidewalks.

AUC students are interacting, having conversations, listening to hip hop music, and lounging on brick walls. The atmosphere is so live that it seem more like a block party than a college campus. When the weather's this nice, many students can't resist the urge to skip a class or two just to take in some sun and fresh air.

For AUC businesses, students

tend to spend more money in the AUC epi-center purchasing tee shirts, books and food.

Business is so good for one establishment, that it attracts a number of AUC students along the Brawley strip. The Shear Magic Beauty Salon, located across from the Robert Woodruff Library, seems to lure a distinctive crowd outside its doors.

Because of the image, Shear Magic has received some criticism when it was poorly linked to an incident that shocked Atlanta during Thanksgiving weekend 1992. Cobb county housewife Sara Tokars, 39, was brutally slain in an alleged murder plot, which involved her suspected husband Fredric Tokars, 40, a successful Cobb County lawyer.

Charged with murder that December was Fredric Tokars' business associate Eddie Lawrence, along with triggerman Curtis Rower, who confessed to the murder and kidnapping of Sara Tokars, in a Cobb Country Superior Court.

Sara Tokars was beleived to have evidence about malicious business dealings between her husband an Lawrence, that could convict an end their careers according to *People Magazine*.

Ironically Lawrence, a real estate agent, leased the renovated house in which Shear Magic resides. The house was sold to Lawrence by Fred Tokars before the murder incident. During the first two months of the investigation, Shear Magic received a host

of media attention.

Criticized for the fancy cars parked outside its doors, and the fashionably well dressed people who went behind them, the beauty salon was labled a haven for drug dealers by the media as a social gathering place among AUC students.

"It just so happens that some people at the AUC have nice cars," said Will Bowman, 25, barber and head manager at Shear Magic. He said there are many college students that are quite wealthy, and that they just so happen to seek business at his shop.

Ken Hull, 22, a junior at Morris Brown College recalls Shear Magic Salon and Fred Tokars being on the news togeth-

er two years ago. He said he got the impression Shear Magic was owned by a drug ring from general talk on campus.

"If they (the media) don't have proven facts agaisnt them, then it's nothing but hearsay," said hull. "People are going to talk and draw their own conclusions regardless."

After bombarding questions and unsuccessful research, journalists discovered no connections between the Shear Magic staff and tokars, and reportedly left the shop alone.

The real estate agency owned by Lawrence no longer collects the rental fees for the shop, Bowman said, and the property has been seiged by another reality company,

NATIONAL NEWS

Political Violence Sweeps South Africa

By Gomotsang Seema
Staff Writer

Bophuthatswana - one of the ten tribal homelands in South Africa, erupted in violence recently ago after the overthrow of its President Lucas Manyane Mangope.

The popular uprising took place after the homeland leader's refusal to allow his 2.5 million citizens to take part in the coming elections. The capital city of the homeland called Mmabatho, was no longer the same after the violence.

According to a native of Mmabatho, Ndumiso Cingo, "I wish I was there to witness the uprising." He also stated that it has been long overdue that Mangope be taken out of the office and let the citizens vote during the elections.

In an article written in Washington post, Bophuthattswana was created 17 years ago by apartheid engineers whose grand design was to make South Africa's rural Blacks citizens of foreign lands or tribally based homelands. About 56 percent of South Africa's Blacks live in the homeland.

Bophuthatswana is part of the "Freedom Alliance" which was formed by the right-wingers -AWB, Inkatha under the leadership of Gatsha Buthelezi, and other parties that oppose the elections. The alliance was designed to oppose the elections with the hope that both Mangope and Buthelezi stay in power.

According to Clayton Ntloko, a graduate student at Clark Atlanta University from South Africa, "There is no telling that the rate of violence is going to decrease after the elections. Most of us are worried if we will be able to obtain jobs after graduation." He further sated that people like Mangope and Buthelezi do not want to see a democratic South Africa. "What's funny about Inkhatha freedom Party is that when it was first established, the motive was to unite the Zulus and not fight against other progressive parties. It was then after Mandela's release that they changed their focus to opposing any progressive movement," Ntloko emphasized.

African National Congress leader, Nelson Mandela, is not threatened by any of these homeland leaders.

According to an article in the Washington Post, "It was shortly after the overthrow of Mangope's leadership that he visited Mmabatho to ensure the citizens that they can take part in the voting and be able to exercise free political activity." Mandela went on to mention that the Transitional Executive Council, which is an alliance established by the government to monitor the elections, sent the South African troops to depose Mangope. "The dispatch with which the executive council brought down the obstructionist Mangope should serve as a warning to other "Toy tyrants" in the country," Mandela stated. With reference to Kwazulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Mmabatho's damage was estimated to \$60 million after the looting at the famous shopping center called Megacity.

The Perfect Solution
When You're
In Between Grants
And Could Use
A Couple Of Lincolns
Or Washingtons.

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WACHOVIA

Students' Achievements Recognized At Awards Ceremonies

By Siedra Cooper
Contributing Writer

Clark Atlanta University recognized 150 students on March 22, in the Student Awards for Excellence in Achievement ceremonies during Convocation Week.

The program honored people in areas of academics, athletics and musical and artistic excellence. It was held at the Virginia Lacy Jones Exhibition Hall in Robert W. Woodruff Library at 6 p.m.

According to President Thomas W. Cole Jr, acknowledging the students is a "special" part of Convocation Week.

"It's one of the most important things that we do, and that's why I enjoy being a part of it," he said. "We need to publicize more of the student's accomplishments and this is one way of showing the students how proud we are of them."

Juanita Carter, Associate Dean of the School of Business, said the administration hopes that recognizing these students will encourage other students to see the importance of working hard.

"We want you to be a beacon of light and shine wherever you go, to let students know the importance of academic excellence," she said.

Scholars such as graduate student, Justine O. Osa, received a special award for achieving a 4.0 average in Library and Information Studies and in Education. Osa said she realizes the challenge of maintaining her grade point average.

"I'm happy, and it's also a challenge to keep it up," she said. "It's a challenge to be able to maintain my average, and next year I want to be here again," she said.

Janell Hargrove, a sophomore who was recognized for her performance in Psychology, also said the awards ceremony was an incentive and challenge for her to do better in the future.

According to Connie Vinson, a sophomore, it is an honor for people to be awarded for their achievements, but she believes that it should occur more than once a year.

"I like the idea of recognizing students more often on a weekly or monthly basis, for example, in order to award students for their efforts," she said.

The ceremony also commended three people for their achievements in athletic and musical and artistic excellence. Terry Beckham, Ryan Turner, and Iyabo Shabazz were acknowledged for their success and persistence in those areas.

Freaknic

Continued From P1

months ago in Atlanta to help plan events and that a number of city officials and the Mayors office had been involved in the initial stages.

ABCSB is a non-profit organization that has no revenue behind it. The organizational structure lies under the Atlanta Student Forum, which was formed in October of 1993 and was chartered last January also as a non-profit organization. The Forum is comprised of students from the AUC. Part of the students' responsibilities are to execute and carry out programs that are to be a part of the event.

According to Rabun, the Forum's goal is to bring together all participants and its objective is to maintain a festival and try and serve as a body that will provide a community service.

Despite the Atlanta committee's head start, there have been complaints of poor and slow planning. In the March 27 issue of the Atlanta Constitution the article "Freaknic Planning Slow," expanded on the tardy progression of this year's activities.

However, according to Rabun disagreed. "Because efforts were undertaken late, we were given roughly three months to plan the event. Whereas, if we had 12 months to start, we would have had nearly everything in place."

Confusion over the name

Many students have complained about this year's event.

A concern, as one student asked, is "Why has the name changed this year?" "Freaknic," was coined back in 1985 by a group of students who gathered in Piedmont Park to barbeque and have fun.

Over the years, the small get-togethers have exploded into a quietly untapped source of major revenue for the city. It was not until last years' complaints from concerned citizens that the city and major sponsors began to take notice of the capabilities and funds generated from the Spring break activities.

Some students said with the economic thrust came the overt commercialization. Entrepreneurs, they say, saw Freaknic as a great investment, hence the rush to capitalize on the name itself. This year marks the first year that the name will no longer be exclusive to one particular entity. Many students believe this is not a good idea.

Rabun said that he understands students' confusion, but legalities kept ABCSB from continuing with the event under the name "Freaknic." He also added that sponsors were weary to put their products behind a name that is derogatory, particularly to women. The Director of the

Atlanta Black College Spring Break '94 said "there is a lot of aversion regarding the name and that Spelman College President, Johnetta Cole said the name is deriding to all black women." He added that he believes ABCSB succinctly exemplifies the event itself."

According to the Hill, the name "Freaknic" is being used by:

•Patrick Hill (who currently resides in North Carolina), who

"There is a lot of aversion regarding the name (Freaknic)... Spelman College President, Johnetta Cole said that the name is deriding to all black women."

-Virgil Rabun
Executive Director, The Atlanta Black College Spring Break '94

reserved the name "Freaknic" with a license only to do business with it.

•Ronn Greene, a local Atlantan, who has a trademark of the derivative "College Superfest Freaknic '94" that he can only use for and on apparel. Greene will bring Freaknic to Coca-Cola's Lakewood Amphitheater in the form of concerts and parties.

Some AUC students said the different names add too much confusion and are unnecessary. According to CAU Junior Political Science Major Geno Bonner, he would rather the name stay as Freaknic. "I'd rather it be Freaknic because that's the way it was in the past and that's how it should be now," he said.

Another CAU student Omar Rowe agreed. "White people picked (The Atlanta Black College Spring Break '94 and Spring Feast '94), now, it'll be bozo-the-clown and a money-maker venture, whereas before it wasn't," the sophomore Political Science major said.

AUC student Necia Smith said, "Freaknic brought out the biggest amount of money Atlanta has seen in a long time- they didn't know black college students could spend the same money on events as white college students."

According to senior Sociology major Sirena Herbert the different names convey different meanings. "Freaknic seems like a fun, full-fledged black college, teenie boper event. As opposed to Freak Feast, which seems like a commercialized version of what an all black college weekend used to be with a white and bourgeoise touch. So what was once a black thing you wouldn't understand is a white event, where (whites) are making money...and once again calling shots because of their involvement. It is just like everything else we used to call our own, now run by white philanthropists," she said.

Police Protection

Some concerns about last year's Freaknic were the block-long, two to three hour traffic jams, students milling on sidewalks and in streets, loud music and inefficient crowd control.

The city was not prepared for the onslaught of visitors and the police department was ill-equipped to handle all the partygoers.

This year some Atlanta Police Officers say they will call a "Blue Flu" the weekend of Freaknic to protest lack of overtime pay, long hours and lack of growth opportunities. 50 or so officers met with Mayor Bill Campbell on Thursday, April 7, to air out grievances. The result was not positive, many officers left still set on boycotting the activities.

A flyer that read: "Don't worry about being the only one out. Worry about being the only one in," was posted on officers cars.

Some students said this is a desperate act formed on the basis of racism. Calvin Briggs, vice president of CAU's Student Government Association said, "People are using Freaknic as leverage for their own purposes and black students are caught in the middle. When all those white people had a (recent) smoke-out in Piedmont Park, there was no attention given to it. If the (police) can't handle Freaknic, then what are they going to do when the Olympics come?"

Scholarships

Rabun said that the Atlanta Black College Spring Break '94 committee's funds will go toward scholarships for AUC students. "Proceeds will go into a general scholarship fund and serve some of the needs of AUC students," he said. He added that it is his future goal to help students inherit the 3-day event. "Hopefully, it will endow and empower students so that they can inherit and continue on with the event and develop it into a formalized structure."



PERSPECTIVES

The
Clark Atlanta University
Panther

Tara C. Gunter/Editor-In-Chief
K.A. White/Business Manager

Commentary

Being Real Gets Real Votes

Is anybody else tired of phony people trying to get a vote. SGA elections are the only time, besides Christmas, when so many people are sickeningly nice.

Get real, you can't buy someone's ballot with a sudden "I like you" personality change--with some food maybe, but not with fake smiles. Besides, it doesn't work.

Students are well aware of phoniness. We've all heard the talk: "So and so doesn't ever speak to me. Now because he or she is running for office they sweating me." Or, "I'm tired of people asking me to vote for 'em."

A lot of time, energy and money is invested in campaigning. However, candidates should remember that they do not have to compromise ethical values to win a position.

Candidates need to realize that students are not fooled by pretentiousness. Being real gets real votes and staying real keeps real supporters.

Freaknic: An Example of AUC Selective Apathy

By Ed Blakemore
Editorial Editor

Once again Atlanta is preparing for its annual Freaknic festivities. Having the advantage of hindsight due to last year's event, I feel this party reflects a very interesting phenomena. It provides plenty of insight about how black people prioritize their actions.

If anyone was to organize some type of action to correct any one of the many ills of Black America, never could they get over 100,000 black people to even think

about their cause. They certainly could not get one-fourth of those persons to come for a meeting, organized demonstration, or rally to support any cause. But all of these supposedly poor individuals suddenly find money and time enough to bring their hypocritical selves to Atlanta.

It is interesting that we continue to allow selective apathy to rule our community. It's every difficult to find anyone black who is of college age, who has not heard or plans to attend Freaknic.

Many of us are truly lost.

Our priorities are shot. When any of the varied organizations which assist our people from unlocking the manacles of oppression call, we suddenly are too poor to donate money or even empathize. But let anyone even passively mention Freaknic and not only does much conversation begin, but enough money suddenly forms in the pockets of these "poor" AUC students to rent a car, drive to Atlanta, spend a weekend at a hotel, buy enough liquor and marijuana to intoxicate millions, and eat at several food establish-

ments.

Freaknic is an event all students should attend at least once. It is always great to see so many black people in one place where nothing negative happens. Unfortunately, nothing truly positive happens either.

I have had an entire year to think about last year's experience. Freaknic truly represents how young black adults have prioritized their actions today. What does it say about us if the only time we can organize our ranks in mass assembly is for a huge party?



Off-Campus Student Woes

By Chandra R. Thomas
Features Editor

Off-campus students have it hard.

We sometimes wander around aimlessly like orphans searching for a place to live. We meander through buildings, hunting for a place to lay our heads. We are essentially "homeless people with homes"-- away from campus, that is.

The troubles of freshmen and transfer students are often acknowledged, but rarely do we explore the hardships of transient students. Yes, we are the "mavericks of MARTA," the "Thayer Hall travelers," and the "refugees of the recreation room." Whatever the title, we all share a very unique collegiate

experience.

Several of us start our day with a wild ride on public transportation. As we await the number 13 Techwood/Fair St. bus, our senses are bombarded with what is referred to as "The Five Points Ministry."

These screaming lunatics, stand in front of the MARTA station, reminding us of the evils of "the white man" and just how soon we're all going to burn in hell. We are also constantly harassed by street vendors pushing their wares. And no morning is complete without an overly friendly motorist honking his horn at the lovely female students.

When the bus arrives, we crowd its stairwell, like a herd of sheep, hoping to get a seat.

The ride is frighteningly reminiscent of the Middle Passage--African-Americans piled atop one another. We desperately attempt to maintain our balance as the bus approaches its various stops.

However, before you can spell Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), the bus has reached the Atlanta University Center stop. Students disperse in many different directions to classes, appointments, and work-study jobs.

But this arrival poses another problem: What to do in between classes. Not having the luxury of returning to a dorm room, we rove the campus like nomads searching for a place to study, sleep, or just relax. We can usually be found

watching television in Thayer Hall, sleeping in the library, socializing on the steps of McPheeters Dennis, or just wandering about.

If a book is left at home, we don't have the luxury of running back to a dorm room to get it. If the temperature suddenly drops 35 degrees we can't just grab a sweater in the middle of the day. We are forced to plan for each and every possible occurrence.

Finally, as the day ends, we board MARTA once again and prepare to repeat the same crazy process the next day.

So next time you see a transient student roaming around, be nice. Remember, all we want is a little shelter.

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We encourage letters to the editor. Letters should be 200 words or less, clearly written or typed and double-spaced. All letters must include the author's full name and signature in order to appear in The Panther. The deadline for all letters is Monday of each week by 5 p.m. Letters will run according to date received and amount of space available. The Panther reserves the right to edit for length, grammar, and libelous material. All submissions once received, become the property of The Panther. No letters will be returned. Address all letters to:

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Just A Thought

My Personal Experience in Apartheid South Africa by De'Kembie' Rampe'le'

Before I go into what happened to me, I must first explain that in South Africa any attempt before the year of 1990, to change pro quote apartheid often resulted in imprisonment, banning or death. Either to the person trying to bring change or to his or her family. As a rising star in the African National Congress Youth League, my mouth as well as my political activities often landed me in jail. This often resulted in my American mother coming to the rescue. In July of 1981, a government plan to reduce activity was put into action. The plan known as "Operational clean sweep" resulted in raids in all of South Africa's black townships and tribal homelands. This resulted in countless arrests and killings of blacks. On August 4, 1981, while attending an anti-government rally in the South African coastal city of Durban, police raided my home in Soweto, killing my wife and two children.

I wrote my experience not to gain sympathy, but to address all my brothers and sisters in America about certain stumbling blocks to democracy in South Africa. Although South Africa is on the verge of true democracy for the first time ever, the problems of black on black political violence, unemployment and illiteracy pose a real threat that undermines the very security of South Africa. Also white radical elements within South Africa's police force, along with other radicals, also threatens to disrupt the April 23-26 all race election. Let us pray this does not happen.

Amandla!

South Africa will be free...

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Author of **Yurugu:**
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THE POETS' CORNER

Alas, Beauty.

Alas, Beauty has come into being, a Queen
has arisen
Her glory is often heard in my mind, just
listen
Because it is quite possible that the
thoughts I think
As my eyes blink could be manifested like
the gloss covering mink.

Alas, beauty has entered the cipher called
by my name
And in expressing feeling for this princess
I bear no shame
Whatever she asks will be the guide of my
actions
And for her to ever mention my name
from her mouth
would cause eminent satisfaction

Alas, beauty has been refined in the prism
for Black men to see
Quite, mannered and sexy is the aura, but
whether she sees me is a mystery
I hope with all the effort that my soul and
mind can afford
That you will receive the love my heart
has stored

Alas, beauty is embodied in the grace of an
original Black woman
Apparently, the contour of her body is
adequate to make a dead man stand
Or raise a God - King like me to realize that
I am never alone
As long as the vision that is you is never
gone.

By Jimmie Ophelia Woods, Jr.

I Once Dreamt of A Queen

I once dreamt of a reflection in a small pool
The sky was orange, the earth I knelt in, damp and cool
I only visualized and realized that morning that I am a King
Because the image which laid before me was Queenly

I once dreamt of a Queen so royally accented
I complimented, and I submitted because I knew she
represented
The wisdom of my grandmother, the compassion of my
mother
The love of my wife, and the caretaker of my seeds

I once dreamt of a Queen that delighted blind men
Then astounded those who actually saw, when...
She entered the temple and the Gods became silent
For the gloss of silk-covered black skin, commanded...

I once dreamt of a Queen whose dark eyes allowed a glance
into her soul
Without a word, or gesture to cajole, I was "stole"
I only have to offer, the things which I possess
A truth I attest, lest, I suggest... offering knowledge, compas-
sion, and understanding

No Kingdom do I own..., other than the universe
I think it a meager gift hardly worthy of your purse
For it is true, that it is for you, I am gladly made a hand
servant anew
Only because The Queen I once dreamt of, is you...

By Jimmie Ophelia Woods, Jr.

FROM DUSK TILL DAWN

The rising sun awakens the ocean.
Feel the new day coming in?
Oh, how I've awaited this moment
when life can stand still in a picture frame
and yet continue with every soft ripple that rolls
onto the shore.
I sing wind songs as I'm caught in the melodies
of the breeze.
Soft.
Cool.
Refreshing.
Alive.
Non rhythmic notes that flow freely -
From the heart... to the heart.
There is no need to open your eyes to see the
light, my child
For you ARE the precious sunrise.
I go with the flow as each wave
captures the serenity of my mind

EASY! EASY!
The sun grows stronger, the ripples grow louder
And each represents one more layer of strength
which never
surpasses me.
Do you hear my cry my child?
I bathe in that which has not yet overcome me.
I do this for you.

Rise my child.
For as you stay strong, I will dwell on
your energies and await what is near to over-
come me.
Time after time after time after time.
It is near, you are here.
I weep in the glories of the heavens above.
We are one now.
... But why do you depart so soon my child?
Shine a little longer!
I can feel the energies slip through the winds as
the waves
move to the lands beyond.
Do not feel sad - we shall meet for eternity.
Go easy.
Come back easy.
Easy come.
Easy go.
And what is that cool glow that eases my every
pain?
Makes all waves of troubles move to far, far
away lands?
Gives peace and serenity in mystical ways?
Answer me!!!! oh, answer me!!!!
For I am in your shadows that reflect from the top
of the skies
Alas - I am secure.
I
I am home my father.

By Rhonda L. Terry

GAZES

Slow drips of water glide down the
shell in your hand
on to the sand where my toes are buried.
The sky is placid azure above us and the sand
is warm cotton below.
As I grasp the shell, it falls to its home
inside of its love.
And we gaze into eyes; each mirroring the
same passion.
And match our breaths and hearbeats.

By Redelia Shaw

Death of a Black Woman (IN TRIBUTE TO ZELONDA MCNEAL)

Tears upon her face
with no soothing place to go
Her heart ached with pain
leaving a deep and burning sore
Eyes all cold and vacant
by thoughts that can't be found
Her body absorbed by hurt
her life no longer a crown.

Drops of tears keep falling
they roll so sadly away
They go about their journey
with no sure place to stay.

Touch of a vicious gun
captured the life she knew
Marred by an outrage
by the apathy of me and you
A precious life of beauty
has faded into the air
While those who shared her virtues
must live henceforth in despair

Drops of tears keep falling
they roll from day to day
They go in search for Zelonda
the Queen we took away.

By Brother Artis X

In memory of the girl who was the
victim of a drive-by shooting near the
Garage night club.

Darkest Man

Go ahead, look out for
the Darkest Man;
He has a look that
the world can't stand.
He is cool, but could
be deadly; and for
the world he has the key
He knows not much about
the book on the shelf;
but He knows all that
He says of Himself.

By Rodney E. Mitchell

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FREAKNIC '94

Schedule of Events

Thursday 3 PM - 8 PM Welcoming Party
AU Center/Entertainment/ DJs/Information

Friday 3 PM - 10 PM Welcoming Party
AU Center/Entertainment/DJs/Information

NOON - 10:30 PM Festival Concerts
Atlanta Civic Center Parking Lot
Vendors/Entertainment/DJs

11 PM - 2 AM Comedy Show
Atlanta Civic Center Auditorium

Saturday NOON- 5 PM Piedmont Park
Vendors/DJs/Videos/Entertainment

6 PM- 7 PM Concert Piedmont Park

National Recording Artists (confirmed acts are):

Lords of the Underground, Outcast, Alkoholiks, Terri and Monica,
Dred Post Society, Diggable Planets, Prince Raheem, King Just, 3 Steps
from Nowhere, Biggie Smalls
Souls of Mischief, Tag Team, UGK, M.O.P., A-Town Player, Shaggy,
Black Fist, Shyheim.

Sunday NOON- 6 PM Festival Music Piedmont Park

Acts include:

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Terri and Monica
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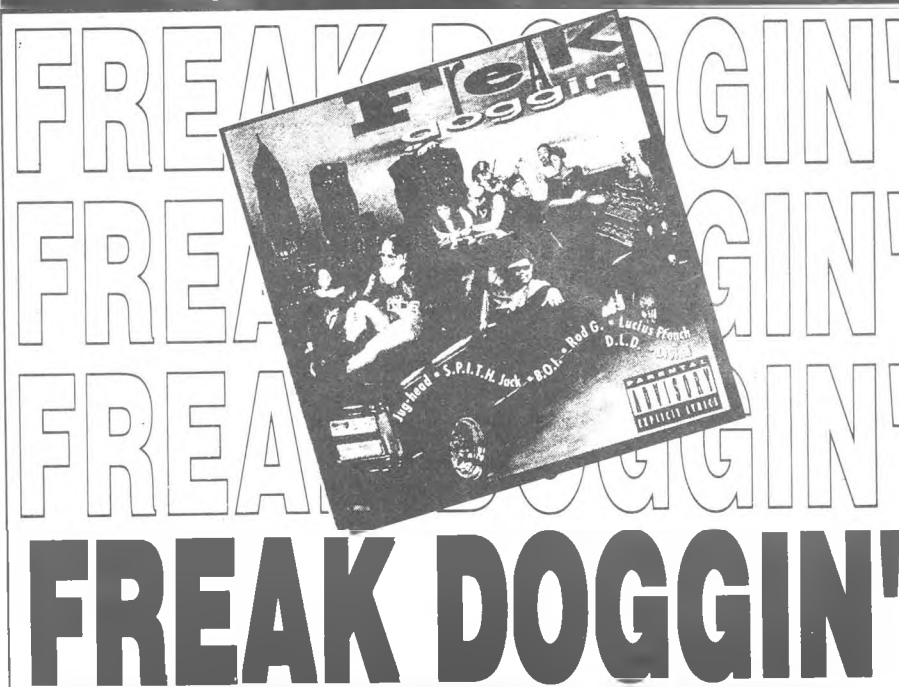
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